

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BUCKLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
held at Bucklebury Memorial Hall on Monday 10th February 2020 at 7.45pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. B. Dickens (Chairman); Cllr. J. Brims; Cllr. H. Cairns; Cllr. L. Clarke; Cllr. A. Hillerton;
Cllr. D. Southgate; Cllr. P. Spours; Cllr. B. Unamba-Oparah; Mrs H. Pratt (Clerk).

OTHERS

Fiona MacCallum.

APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received and approved from Cllr. T. Slatford, Cllr. R. Ranken and District Cllr. G. Pask.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

D1. Updates to Register of Interests.

There were no updates to the register of interests.

D2. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items.

Cllr. Brims and Cllr. Clarke declared an interest in planning application 20/00170/FUL for the Victory Room.

MINUTES

M1. Bucklebury Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday 13th January 2020.

It was resolved that the minutes of the BPC meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Dickens.

M2. Bucklebury Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Monday 27th January 2020.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 27th January 2020 were a true reflection of the meeting and they were signed by Cllr. Brims.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

V1. Update on the Vacant Position.

The Clerk reported that WBC had been informed of the vacancy on BPC and a notice placed on the noticeboards in the west ward where the vacancy has arisen. Parishioners then had 14 days in which to request an election to fill the vacancy. The 14 day period has now concluded and BPC may co-opt a new councillor.

V2. Co-option of a New Councillor.

Fiona MacCallum from Little Corner, Briff Lane expressed her interest in becoming a member of BPC.

It was resolved to co-opt Fiona MacCallum to BPC, representing the west ward.

Cllr. MacCallum signed her Declaration of Office.

CHAIR'S REPORT

CH1. Grit Bins.

Cllr. Dickens thanked Cllr. Spours and Cllr. Southgate for refilling the grit bins which needed topping up.

CH2. Cemetery Working Party – Saturday 21st March 2020.

Four councillors are available to attend the working party. Cllr. Southgate advised that wheelbarrows would be advantageous.

Cllr. Dickens advertised the Working Party in the February edition of The Oaks, so it is hoped that one or two parishioners may also attend.

CH3. Bucklebury Primary School Speed Awareness Poster Competition.

Cllr. Dickens reported that PCSO Sarah Preston was at Bucklebury Primary School for the presentation of the prizes for the poster competition. Cllr. Dickens suggested that an update from the Police would be welcome and that the PCSO should be invited to the HP

Signature

Date

next meeting. This was agreed.

- CH4. District Parish Conference – Thursday 12th March 2020.
Cllr. Southgate and Cllr. Clarke have volunteered to attend the District Parish Conference. The Clerk will also be attending. HP
- CH5. Events Committee.
It was confirmed at the meeting that Cllr. Ranken is a member of the Bucklebury Events Committee. Cllr. Brims commented that his wife is also a member of the Events Committee. Plans for the VE day weekend are to be made at the next meeting of the Events Committee on Wednesday 19th February. The Landlord at The Cottage Inn is also considering putting an event on.
- CH6. Attendance.
Cllr. Dickens asked that the Clerk keep a register of attendance of councillors at meetings from the beginning of 2020. HP

CLERK'S REPORT

- CL1. Defibrillators.
Cllr. MacCallum volunteered to be a guardian for the Peaches defibrillator. It was agreed that Hash Shingadia should be asked if he would also be a guardian. Once two guardians have been identified for all three defibrillators, the Clerk will organise a training session with Nick Young from Heartstart Thatcham. HP
- CL2. Dog bin at Memorial Hall.
Mike Scholl, Chairman of the Memorial Hall Committee welcomed the suggestion of a dog bin somewhere in the carpark. A bin, in the Memorial Hall carpark, immediately to the right of the carpark entrance, behind the sign was agreed as it would have the least potential to cause an issue to users of the facility. Cost of bin itself should be less than £150 including a post. A quote needs to be obtained for installation and emptying. HP
- CL3. Commons Clearing and Litter Pick – Saturday 28th March.
Cllr. Cairns, Cllr. Southgate, Cllr. Unamba-Oparah, Cllr. MacCallum and Cllr. Clarke all offered to make cakes for the Common Clearing event on the 28th March. Cllr. Cairns, Cllr. Hillerton and Cllr. MacCallum will organise the teas. Cllr. Brims will invite the Woolhampton Scouts to attend.
- CL4. Annual Assembly – Friday 15th May 2020.
Cllr. Cairns reported that Kofi Adu-Gyamfi, the WBC waste manager has agreed to attend. The Clerk will invite Paul Gomm and Dr. Lennox from Chapel Row Surgery to give a brief update. HP
- CL5. Bank Mandate.
The Clerk advised that the issue with the bank mandate to add Cllr. Ranken, Cllr. Unamba-Oparah and Cllr. Spours as signatories continues. HP
- CL6. The Oaks.
The Clerk advised that she had several bundles of Oaks, where the normal deliverers are unavailable for various reasons. Cllr. Brims, Cllr. Clarke and Cllr. MacCallum agreed to get these copies out.

PLANNING

Planning applications to be considered.

- P1. 20/00264/HOUSE Ramblers, Little Lane.
Retrospective approval of electric gates. Removal of unlawful fence and set back 1.5m from road plant mixed native hedge.
The following points were made about this application: why is the proposed native hedge not being replaced on the south side of the gates, the wheelie bins tend to be left outside the gates at all times and not just on bin days, there are lights on the gate posts which appear to be on all

Signature

Date

night and whether there is sufficient distance between the gates and the carriage way in order for the gates to open.

It was agreed that BPC had **no objection** to this application, but would make the above comments. It was also agreed to request that the hedge be allowed to grow to the height of the fence.

P2. 20/00181/AGRIC

Broadview Farm, The Ridge.

Application for prior notification for a storage barn.

Broadview Farm has been the subject of a number of planning applications in recent years which have included the conversion of agricultural buildings to light industrial. There is a bridleway through the farm which has been blocked by a barn. The barn proposed in this application is either on or very near an alternative route to the blocked bridleway. A completely different route for a public right of way (to the east of the land) has been discussed, but to date there has been no formal application.

This application is for a 1000m² barn. The application makes no reference to any right of way through the farm.

It was agreed that BPC **objects** to this application until the issue of the right of way is resolved.

P3. 20/00170/FUL

Bucklebury Village Hall, Bucklebury (The Victory Room).

Demolition/removal of existing toilets and storage area. Construction of a new extension to accommodate a new hall. The existing hall will be converted to accommodate a small hall/meeting room, storage, ladies, gents and disabled toilets and a new kitchen.

Cllr. Brims (Chairman of the Victory Room Trustees) commented that the new residents of the Old Police House (adjacent to the Victory Room) had been consulted on the plans and were very positive about the proposals.

It was unanimously agreed that BPC **supports** this application.

Planning decisions made by WBC:

P4. 19/03051/HOUSE

Shady Oak, Little Lane.

Replacement of flat roof over single storey bedroom with pitched, hipped roof.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

P5. 19/02973/HOUSE

Beechlyn, The Slade.

Replace the flat roof dormers to the front and rear with gable end dormers. The dormer at the front will overhang the front elevation and be supported on oak stilts. Remove the porch and build a small single storey extension on the eastern elevation. An oak framed garden room is to be built on the western elevation on an existing foundation in place for a historic extension which was never built. Remove the central chimney and breast. A timber framed veranda connecting the rear kitchen entrance and the garden room.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by WBC.

P6. 19/02631/HOUSE

Ramblers, Little Lane.

Retrospective electric gates and fence.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **withdrawn**.

P7. 19/02108/COMIND

Bucklebury Farm Park.

Retrospective application for 7 glamping units and associated development for perennial use.

BPC had **no objection** to this application which has been **approved** by

Signature

Date

WBC.

P8. 19/02517/HOUSE – River Barn

Retrospective in part – Distributary channel with foot bridge; Two storey extension replacing single storey extension; Restoration of Mill Barn; Oak frame store; Partial demolition of outbuilding.

This application will be considered by the Eastern Area Planning Committee on Wednesday 19th February having been deferred from the meeting on 29th January. Cllr. Brims will attend on behalf of BPC.

TOPICS

T1. Recycling in the Parish.

Cllr. Cairns reported that recycling of plastic bottle tops is going well. The tops which cannot be recycled by RPCS in Cold Ash are being taken to Jana Little in Thatcham who sends them to TerraCycle.

T2. Speeding in the Parish.

The Speeding Working Group is awaiting Graham Markham (WBC) to set up the Sentinel camera along Burdens Heath and at Chapel Row, however, he is not keen to commit to dates. Cllr. Clarke has requested the SID for the last two weeks of March. More surveys need to be carried out along Broad Lane. The Working Group will be meeting prior to using SID in order to determine time slots for the various locations through the parish.

The 30mph speed signs at the west end of Bucklebury Village are 180° out. This was reported to WBC several weeks ago, but no action has been taken to rectify the signs. The new skid warning sign near the Old Post Office and the Church (both listed buildings) was to be removed by WBC, but this is still awaited. Cllr. Dickens will take up these matters with the Highways Portfolio holder. *The matter was rectified before this could be done.*

BD

The prizes have been awarded for the speeding awareness poster competition in Bucklebury Primary School. It was agreed that the posters designed by the runners up would be laminated and put on the BPC notice boards. Two copies of each of the 5 winning posters will be enlarged to A2 and printed on Correx. A cost of up to £100 was agreed.

BU

T3. Combating Loneliness.

The Oak Room has been booked for the following Thursday mornings: 27th February, 26th March, 30th April, 28th May, 25th June and 30th July. Cllr. Hillerton, Cllr. MacCallum and the Clerk will be meeting on Wednesday to discuss further detail. It is planned to ask those who attend what they would enjoy doing during the morning.

The Clerk is meeting with Lucy Hill, the Social Prescriber at Chapel Row Surgery to share information about groups in the parish.

HP

T4. Bucklebury Meadows and the Hockett Field.

The Clerk reported that the last ecology survey of the Hockett Field was carried out in 2014 by Karen Davies.

T5. Cemetery and Chapel.

Cemetery Carols in 2020 will be on Monday 21st December.

T6. Fred Dawson Playpark and the BMX Track.

Update on weekly inspections – Cllr. Hillerton reported that there were no new issues. It was agreed that she would look into sourcing a new bin to replace the broken bin by the gate.

AH

T7. Countryside

Motor bikes on byways were reported to be causing a problem.

FINANCE

F1. Cheques to be signed by Councillors:

Signature

Date

Post Office Ltd	£5.68	SSE for Streetlights 3/1/2020 to 3/2/2020.
The Alpha Xperience	£396.00	The February edition of The Oaks.
Willis and Ainsworth	£222.00	50 bags of grit for the grit bins.
Helen Pratt	£523.79	Clerk's January salary.
Berkshire Pension Fund	£155.19	January 2020 pension contribution.

F2. To review current balances and financial position.

Lloyds Current Account balance after all cheques cleared and lodgements received:	£50,873.29
Lloyds Current Account:	£55,104.06 On 20 th January 2020.
Lloyds Business Instant Account for meadows.	£36,911.16 On 20 th January 2020.
Scottish Widows Reserve Account:	£37,741.43 On 1 st April 2019.
Scottish Widows Gilroy Account:	£4,578.89 On 1 st April 2019.

REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

RT1. Thatcham Community Stakeholder Workshop.

Cllr. Cairns reported that there have been 260 sites submitted to WBC for the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA), of these, 26 are in the Thatcham area.

It was noted that Thatcham has not had any major development for a number of years.

RT2. Environment Strategy Workshop.

Cllr. Unamba-Oparah reported that WBC is currently consulting on the Environment Strategy which is to be completed by 2023. It contains the current thinking and steps required for WBC to become carbon neutral.

A parish recycling crisp packets was cited which had collected 1000s of packets.

ROUND TABLE COMMENTS

RT1. Pocketsights.

Cllr. Southgate will organise a date for a meeting to start work on setting up some walks around the parish using Pocketsights.

DS

RT2. Bucklebury Web Domains.

Cllr. Unamba-Oparah commented that he currently owns a number of internet domain names relevant to the parish of Bucklebury, including buckleburyvillage.com and buckleburyvictoryroom.com.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Date of next Planning meeting: 7.45pm Monday 24th February 2020.

Date of next BPC meeting: 7.45pm Monday 9th March 2020.

Common Clearing: Saturday 28th March 2020.

Signature

Date